|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First Language (L1) Acquisition** | |
| **Factor** | **Questions to Address** |
| **Age:** When does language acquisition begin and how does it progress? | From birth, L1 is being acquired. Babies communicate in some form beginning with crying or fussing. As they grow, sounds represent words, then come words, phrases, and sentences. The understanding of L1 develops much faster than communication a language. The process of L1 acquisition is very rapid. |
|  |  |
| **Sound System:** How do young children learn the L1 sound system and the rules of the native language? | Children learn the rules and sound system of a first language purely by acquisition. Our brains are ready to store and process a language. Listening and processing everything around them allows that language to develop. Children can understand complex rules, syntax, and use grammar without ever being taught. |
|  |  |
| **Learning Environment:** Where does L1 take place and under what conditions and circumstances does early language learning occur? | L1 takes places in the home, in school, and surrounding environment if in the country where L1 is the national language.  For ESL students, L1 takes place in the home, within the family, and sometimes in the surrounding community. |
| **Second Language (L2) Acquisition** | |
| **Factor** | **Questions to Address** |
| **Age:** When does second language acquisition begin and how does it progress? | SLA can begin at any age or stage in life. SLA can begin when a student is placed in a school system when the student has entered a new country. SLA can begin at birth where L1 and L2 are spoken by parents. SLA can also occur when just being in and surrounded by the culture L2 is spoken. SLA progresses within 5 stages: pre production, early production, speech emergence, intermediate fluency, and advanced fluency. |
|  |  |
| **Sound System:** How do second language learners learn the sound system and rules of the second language? | Sounds and rules can be learned by acquisition if they are immersed in the L2 environment at an early age. Students can learn the sound system and rules of L2 in a school setting. Also, they can be learned by borrowing and comparing to L1, also known as interlanguage. |
|  |  |
| **Learning Environment:** Where does early L2 language acquisition take place and under what type of conditions? | L2 language acquisition takes place in a school setting where students are instructed primarily in L2 and surrounded by the language. L2 language acquisition can also take place in the public environment if students are living within that culture. |
|  |  |
| **Related Factors:** What is interlanguage and fossilization and how do these things impact SLA? | Interlanguage is compromise system of using L1 to learn and develop L2. This can aid in learning a new language system because people have knowledge in L1. Some rules and vocabulary could be similar, which make L2 that much easier. With interlanguage comes fossilization. Fossilization is errors being made permanent. This can be a problem because permanent mistakes could hinder L2 from progressing. |
|  |  |

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY Honor Statement:

This assignment/assessment was solely written by me. In no way have I, Jennifer Lloyd, plagiarized (represented the work of another as my own) or otherwise violated the copyright laws and academic conventions of fair use. I know that violations of this policy may result in my being dismissed from Middle Tennessee State University and/or appropriate legal action being taken against me. Signed (submitting this statement to Teaching Faculty with student's name typed below constitutes signing):

Jennifer Lloyd

5-20-11